

FISCAL NOTE

SB 3375 – HB 3522

March 11, 2006

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires LEAs to implement a program to identify children at risk for obesity. Requires local education agencies (LEAs) to complete a body mass index (BMI-for-age) on every child enrolled within the school system within 90 days of the beginning of each school year. LEAs shall provide parents with a health report card along with basic educational information on what the results mean. The Department of Health shall provide the Governor's office and the Speakers of the Senate and House a report of the aggregate results of the BMI screenings by January 31st of each year.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase Local Govt. Expenditures – Exceeds \$2,000,000*

Assumptions:

- Legislation was passed in 2005 which encouraged LEAs to implement a program to identify children at risk for obesity. Enactment of this bill would *require* LEAs to implement such a program.
- Implementation of such a program would include training individuals to collect this data, the purchase of equipment to measure BMI, the printing and dissemination of information/report card to parents, the development of a data collection/management information system, professional development, and additional staff within the LEAs to provide coordination for this effort with the Department of Health.
- Implementation of a program to include all students in the state public schools (approximately 990,000) is estimated to increase local government expenditures in an amount exceeding \$2,000,000.
- The bill also encourages schools where aggregate data suggests that a disproportionate percentage of children are overweight to expand existing school-based nutrition and physical activity programs to reduce those rates.
- It is assumed that topics such as healthy eating and the importance of physical activity are currently addressed to some extent in Lifetime Wellness, Health and Biology classes.

**Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director

